storing information in a biological fluid collection and/or processing facility ("facility"). The present

invention can be incorporated into an existing facility's system via an upgrade to existing hardware

and software. The present apparatus provides a data connection between laboratory instruments,

including, but not limited to, existing blood and blood component collection instruments, such as the

Autopheresis-C instrument which is supplied by the Fenwal Division of Baxter Healthcare

Corporation located in Deerfield, Illinois, those described in PCT Publication No. WO 01/17584,

U.S. Patent Nos. 5,581,687 and 5,956,023, and U.S. Serial No. 09/037,356, and biological treatment

instruments, such as the pathogen inactivation instruments described in U.S. Serial No. 09/325,599,

which are all assigned to Baxter and are incorporated by reference herein, and the collection facility's

management information system which lends itself to automated tracing and/or tracking of donors

and biological fluids data logging. Traceability is provided via integration of donor, operator, soft

goods, and instrument data. The present invention further automates event reporting which is

required for regulatory compliance. - -

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 8 at line 3 and ending on page 8 at line 11 with

the following paragraph:

- - In a second embodiment illustrated in Figure 2, the apparatus 10 comprises hardware and

software component parts and provides for inter-process communication. Figure 2 shows a first

network 12. The first network 12 includes laboratory instruments 20a, 20b, 20c, serial/parallel to

Ethernet converters 24a, 24b, 24c , such as a PicoWeb™ device by Lightner Engineering located in

San Diego, California or a NetDev™ device by Fenwal Division of Baxter Healthcare Corporation,

where needed, a first Ethernet 30, and a system server 34 including a memory, a communication driver for the apheresis instruments, a communication protocol converter, and an HTML application with embedded javascript code. - -

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 62 at line 17 and ending on page 62 at line 25 with the following paragraph:

- - The system 10 also allows a facility to gather data from the laboratory instruments. This data can be monitored in real time, or near real time, from remote locations, the workstation(s), or the PDAs. The present system has the ability to convert parallel data to Ethernet which allows the data to be seen using a common web browser. This enables present system to be integrated into existing blood collection facilities that utilize legacy apheresis instruments having a proprietary pin arrangement, such as the Autopheresis-C plasmapheresis instrument supplied by the Fenwal Division of Baxter Healthcare Corporation. The data conversion is accomplished by the serial/parallel to Ethernet converters or NetDev™ devices 24a, 24b, 24c. - -

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment be entered.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-0280. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.